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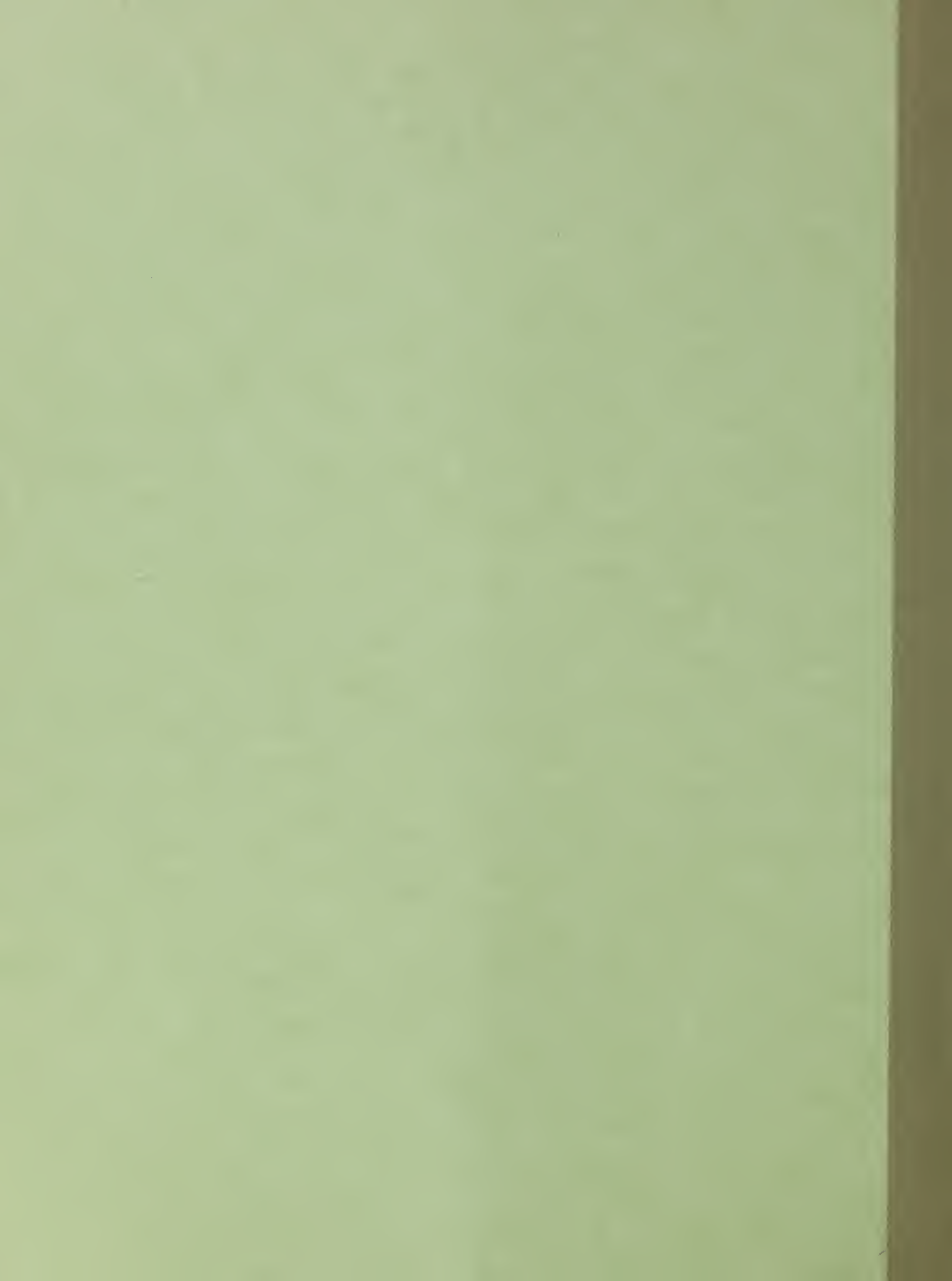
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HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTION AND PRESERVATION OF FOOD FOR
HOME USE IN THE UNITED STATES, BY REGION; 1964

(CFE Photocopy Series-1 [Old ARS 62-22])

Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of
Agriculture, Consumer and Food Economics Research
Division, Food Consumption Branch



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HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTION AND PRESERVATION OF FOOD FOR HOME USE
IN THE UNITED STATES, BY REGION, 1964

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HIGHLIGHTS

...Proportions of all U.S. households producing any food for their own use dropped from 40 percent in 1954 to 34 percent in 1964.

...The greatest declines from 1954 to 1964 were in proportions of farm households producing chickens, eggs, milk, and milk products.

...Proportions of households producing food for home use in 1964 were greater in the North Central Region and the South than in the Northeast and West.

...Home-food production in 1964 was more prevalent among U.S. rural nonfarm households in the lowest income bracket (under \$3,000) than among those with higher incomes. Proportions of city and farm households producing food for use at home varied little with income.

...Percentages of U.S. households canning any food for use at home dropped from 44 percent in 1954 to 34 percent in 1964.

...Percentages of U.S. households freezing food for home use rose from 19 percent in 1954 to 24 percent in 1964.

...The major part of the decrease in canning and the increase in freezing can be explained by the smaller numbers of households canning vegetables (in forms other than as pickles and relishes) and fruit (other than in jellies, jams, and preserves), and the larger numbers of households freezing vegetables and fruit.

...Percentages of rural nonfarm households in the United States canning food in 1964 dropped steadily at successively higher levels of income. Income had little relationship to the prevalence of canning by city and farm households, however.

...Although there was little relationship between family income and the prevalence of homefreezing for all U.S. households in 1964, some differences were noted among urbanization categories. Fewer urban households in the lowest income bracket froze foods than those with higher incomes. In rural nonfarm areas, more of the middle-income households froze food than those at the extremes of the income range.

More farm households with incomes of \$5,000 and over froze food, but percentages were relatively high for households with lower incomes--almost two-thirds of those with incomes under \$3,000 and slightly more than three-fourths of those with incomes of \$3,000 up to \$5,000 froze some food at home.

INTRODUCTION

Information on the production and preservation of food for home use was collected from a nationwide sample of housekeeping households in the spring 1965 food consumption survey conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Less detailed information was obtained in this survey than in earlier ones made by the Department. For example, no attempt was made to obtain estimates of quantities of foods produced or preserved in a year; nor was information collected on the specific foods preserved. However, the percentages of households producing and preserving foods for their own use in the sample of households surveyed in spring 1965 can be compared with those from earlier surveys to measure changes in household practices.

Tables in the appendix to this publication give the distribution of households interviewed in the United States and in each of the four Census regions and average household size within the several urbanization categories and five income brackets.

HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTION OF FOOD FOR HOME USE

About one-third of all U.S. households produced some food for their own use in 1964 (table 1). Almost all the farm households produced some food, with more growing vegetables or fruit than raising animals for meat or other products such as milk and eggs. More than half the rural nonfarm households and about one-fifth of the urban households produced some of their own food, particularly tomatoes and other vegetables.

A higher proportion of households in the North Central Region and the South produced some food for their own use than in either the Northeast or West. This difference apparently came from the higher percentages of North Central and Southern rural nonfarm households producing foods than the rural nonfarm households in the other two regions. A slightly smaller percentage of farm households in the West produced food than in the other three regions.

The kinds of food produced varied somewhat with region. Fewer farm households in the West than in any other region grew tomatoes, other vegetables, and fruit other than melons. A greater percentage of farm households in the South produced melons than the farm households in any other

TABLE 1.--Home-food production in 1964: Percentages of households producing food for home use, by region and urbanization

Region and urbanization	Vegetables, fruit										Animal products							
	Any food	Any	Potatoes, sweet-potatoes	Tomatoes	Other vegetables	Melons	Other fruit	Any	Meat					Eggs	Milk, milk products			
									Any	Beef, veal	Pork	Lamb, mutton	Chicken			Other poultry		
United States:	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.		
	All urbanizations---	34	32	11	27	26	6	14	10	8	4	4	1 1/0	4	1	7	4	
	Urban-----	22	21	3	17	14	2	8	2	1	1 1/5	1 1/5	1 1/0	1 1/7	0	1	1 1/12	
	Rural nonfarm-----	55	51	24	45	45	13	22	18	12	5	42	2	40	1	12	52	
Farm-----	94	87	53	78	83	31	54	80	70	49	42	2	40	6	52	43		
Northeast:	All urbanizations---	21	20	4	18	15	2	8	3 3/8	2	1	1	1 1/0	1	1	2	1	
	Urban-----	13	13	1	11	8	1	4	1 1/8	1 1/5	1 1/2	0	0	0	0	1 1/5	1 1/2	
	Rural nonfarm-----	45	43	13	38	36	6	18	76	58	50	21	2	28	5	35	56	
	Farm-----	97	83	40	75	81	17	56	4	1	1	0	0	0	1 1/5	2	56	
North Central:	All urbanizations---	40	39	14	35	33	5	18	11	9	5	5	1 1/0	5	1	7	5	
	Urban-----	26	26	4	23	19	2	9	1	1 1/10	1 1/6	1 1/3	0	1 1/5	0	1 1/8	5	
	Rural nonfarm-----	61	60	28	54	53	10	29	14	10	62	44	4	43	1	51	47	
	Farm-----	96	88	52	80	84	22	60	83	75	62	44	1	43	8	51	47	
South:	All urbanizations---	40	38	17	32	32	9	15	17	12	5	7	1 1/0	8	1	13	6	
	Urban-----	24	23	4	18	17	2	7	4	2	1 1/5	1	1 1/0	1	0	3	3	
	Rural nonfarm-----	56	52	29	46	47	13	20	26	17	5	8	1	12	1	20	1 1/7	
	Farm-----	94	89	61	82	86	44	51	78	68	37	46	1	41	4	56	38	
West:	All urbanizations---	29	27	4	15	15	4	18	6	4	3	1	1 1/0	1	1 1/0	3	2	
	Urban-----	25	24	3	13	12	3	17	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1 1/2	
	Rural nonfarm-----	46	38	11	27	33	3	19	17	12	9	3	1 1/0	4	0	8	1 1/2	
	Farm-----	88	71	25	43	59	13	38	72	61	54	25	5	32	7	42	39	

1/ Less than 0.5 percent.

region. Beef and veal production was most prevalent in the North Central Region; pork, chicken, and eggs in the North Central and South; and milk in the Northeast and North Central Regions.

U.S. Variations With Income and Urbanization

More U.S. households in the lowest income bracket (under \$3,000) than those with higher incomes produced some food for their own use in 1964 (table 2). The percentages of households producing vegetables dropped at each successively higher level of income.

Urban households.--At the different income levels, about equal proportions of urban households (one-fifth to one-fourth of them) had produced some food for their own use--usually tomatoes and other vegetables. Whereas the low-income urban households may have produced foods in an attempt to save money on their food budgets and add variety to their diets, these data indicate that high-income urban households also gardened--as a hobby or to have their own choice of produce.

Rural nonfarm households.--Home-food production by rural nonfarm households was greatest in low-income households--almost two-thirds of those with incomes under \$3,000 had produced some food for their own use. Slightly less than half of the households with incomes of \$7,000 and over grew vegetables or fruits or raised animals for some of their own food. Home production of vegetables and animal products declined steadily at successively higher levels of income. Home production of eggs dropped sharply in households with incomes of \$5,000 and more.

Farm households.--The proportions of farm households producing food for use at home varied little with income. There were differences, however, in the percentages producing various kinds of foods. More low-income than high-income farm families grew potatoes and sweetpotatoes. The percentages decreased at each higher income level--about two-thirds of those at the under \$3,000 level grew these foods, but only one-third of the highest income group. Production of chickens and eggs also decreased stepwise with successively higher incomes. Beef and veal production, however, was more prevalent in households with incomes of \$5,000 and over than at lower incomes.

Differences by Level of Income Among Regions and Urbanizations

The rural nonfarm and farm samples in the Northeast and West in the spring 1965 survey were not large enough to permit comparison of their food production practices by level of income. Data, therefore, are shown by urbanization and income level for the North Central Region and the South (table 3).

TABLE 2.--Home-food production in the United States in 1964: Percentages of households producing food for home use, by urbanization and level of income

Urbanization and income level	Vegetables, fruit					Animals products											
	Any food	Potatoes, sweet-potatoes				Other veg- tables	Toma- toes	Melons	Other fruit	Any	Meat				Eggs	Milk, milk products	
		Any	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.						Pct.	Beef, veal	Pork	Lamb, mutton			Chicken
All urbanizations																	
Under \$3,000-----	43	40	20	35	36	8	18	19	13	6	7	1/	9	1	15	8	
\$3,000 to \$4,999-----	36	33	14	28	29	6	14	14	10	6	6	1/	6	1	9	5	
\$5,000 to \$6,999-----	32	31	9	27	25	5	15	14	8	5	3	1/	3	1/	4	3	
\$7,000 to \$9,999-----	29	28	6	22	20	4	13	13	4	3	1	1/	2	1/	2	2	
\$10,000 and over-----	31	29	4	22	18	3	13	13	10	4	4	1/	4	1	7	4	
Urban																	
Under \$3,000-----	26	25	5	20	19	2	9	19	1	1/	1/	0	1	0	3	1/	
\$3,000 to \$4,999-----	20	19	3	15	14	2	7	14	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	
\$5,000 to \$6,999-----	21	20	4	17	14	2	8	14	1	1	1	1/	1	0	1	1/	
\$7,000 to \$9,999-----	22	21	2	16	13	2	9	13	1	1/	1/	0	1/	0	1/	0	
\$10,000 and over-----	24	23	2	18	13	1	10	13	2	1	1	0	0	0	1/	1/	
Rural nonfarm																	
Under \$3,000-----	64	59	37	52	55	13	25	55	32	7	9	0	14	1	26	10	
\$3,000 to \$4,999-----	56	52	28	46	49	9	19	49	21	5	6	0	9	2	16	6	
\$5,000 to \$6,999-----	52	50	19	46	44	10	24	44	12	6	5	0	4	1/	5	3	
\$7,000 to \$9,999-----	46	45	16	38	37	7	22	37	7	3	1	0	3	1/	5	2	
\$10,000 and over-----	46	43	8	35	27	4	17	27	7	3	2	0	3	0	4	1	
Farm																	
Under \$3,000-----	96	89	64	81	86	36	52	86	85	40	47	2	47	5	63	52	
\$3,000 to \$4,999-----	95	88	55	79	83	32	55	83	81	49	42	3	42	6	54	43	
\$5,000 to \$6,999-----	93	86	49	79	82	27	57	82	76	57	39	3	39	7	45	36	
\$7,000 to \$9,999-----	94	86	48	79	82	28	56	82	75	68	35	1	33	8	40	37	
\$10,000 and over-----	94	82	32	70	76	25	50	76	72	54	23	5	23	5	32	37	

1/ Less than 0.5 percent.

TABLE 3.--Home-food-production in the North Central Region and the South in 1964: Percentages of households producing food for home use, by urbanization and level of income

Region, urbanization and income level	Any food	Vegetables, fruit						Animal products								
		Any	Potatoes, sweet- potatoes	Toma- toes	Other vege- tables	Melons	Other fruit	Any	Meat						Eggs	Milk, milk products
									Any	Beef, veal	Pork	Lamb, mutton	Chicken	Other poultry		
North Central	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
All urbanizations:																
Under \$3,000-----	47	46	23	39	39	6	22	17	13	10	8	1/	8	1	12	12
\$3,000 to \$4,999--	49	48	23	42	43	7	23	19	15	11	7	1	9	2	12	8
\$5,000 to \$6,999--	40	39	12	36	34	6	18	10	9	7	5	1/	5	1	5	3
\$7,000 to \$9,999--	35	34	8	30	28	4	16	6	5	4	2	1/	3	1	3	3
\$10,000 and over--	37	36	5	33	25	4	14	7	6	4	4	1/	4	1	4	3
Urban:																
Under \$3,000-----	29	29	8	26	24	1	9	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
\$3,000 to \$4,999--	25	25	4	21	20	2	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
\$5,000 to \$6,999--	25	24	4	22	19	2	8	1	1	1	1/	0	1	0	1/	0
\$7,000 to \$9,999--	28	28	3	24	19	3	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
\$10,000 and over--	29	28	1	26	18	1	8	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0
Rural nonfarm:																
Under \$3,000-----	64	61	37	51	49	8	34	19	11	8	7	0	7	1	14	13
\$3,000 to \$4,999--	72	71	44	66	67	10	30	22	15	8	4	0	7	2	12	5
\$5,000 to \$6,999--	66	66	22	62	60	12	34	12	11	7	4	0	3	0	4	2
\$7,000 to \$9,999--	44	44	16	38	39	5	22	5	4	2	0	0	2	1	4	2
\$10,000 and over--	65	61	17	61	48	13	26	13	13	4	4	0	13	0	9	0
Farm:																
Under \$3,000-----	96	87	59	77	84	21	60	87	73	57	43	3	43	6	57	60
\$3,000 to \$4,999--	96	90	52	80	84	20	59	86	79	63	43	5	47	7	58	47
\$5,000 to \$6,999--	95	87	52	84	85	18	60	81	78	66	47	3	44	9	46	38
\$7,000 to \$9,999--	98	89	52	86	88	29	60	80	77	69	44	2	38	11	43	39
\$10,000 and over--	96	92	37	82	88	26	63	76	71	53	47	6	33	12	39	41
All urbanizations:																
Under \$3,000-----	51	47	27	42	44	14	19	28	19	5	10	1/	14	1	23	9
\$3,000 to \$4,999--	43	39	17	32	35	10	14	20	14	5	9	1/	9	1	14	6
\$5,000 to \$6,999--	37	35	12	31	29	8	15	12	10	7	5	1/	5	1	6	4
\$7,000 to \$9,999--	26	25	8	20	18	4	10	5	5	3	2	0	3	1/	4	2
\$10,000 and over--	34	33	7	25	22	3	12	7	6	5	4	1/	1	0	2	1
Urban:																
Under \$3,000-----	29	27	7	23	22	3	8	6	2	0	0	0	2	0	6	1/
\$3,000 to \$4,999--	26	24	4	18	18	2	7	5	4	0	2	0	2	0	4	0
\$5,000 to \$6,999--	25	24	6	20	17	2	8	3	2	1	0	0	1	0	1	1/
\$7,000 to \$9,999--	17	16	2	12	10	1	6	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
\$10,000 and over--	23	27	4	21	18	2	7	4	2	2	1	0	0	0	1	0
Rural nonfarm:																
Under \$3,000-----	69	63	43	56	61	19	24	42	27	5	12	0	20	1	35	11
\$3,000 to \$4,999--	53	51	28	43	48	12	15	28	18	5	8	0	14	2	22	8
\$5,000 to \$6,999--	46	44	16	40	37	10	18	14	12	7	7	0	5	1	6	4
\$7,000 to \$9,999--	42	41	20	35	31	7	18	11	8	4	3	0	5	0	10	4
\$10,000 and over--	40	40	10	25	22	2	20	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Farm:																
Under \$3,000-----	96	92	71	88	90	48	50	84	71	28	52	1	50	4	69	47
\$3,000 to \$4,999--	93	89	61	81	85	44	53	76	66	36	44	1	38	2	54	36
\$5,000 to \$6,999--	91	86	52	79	83	44	55	75	68	48	43	1	38	6	51	34
\$7,000 to \$9,999--	89	88	57	82	84	38	52	66	61	50	34	0	32	4	38	32
\$10,000 and over--	83	82	40	69	71	27	40	73	67	56	42	2	11	0	24	22

1/ Less than 0.5 percent.

The percentages of households producing food in the North Central Region varied slightly among the several income levels. Generally, slightly more of the households with incomes under \$5,000 than those with higher incomes produced food for their own use. The proportions of urban households producing food for their own use varied little with income. Nor were there consistent differences among groups of rural nonfarm households at different income levels, except for certain foods. Percentages growing potatoes and sweetpotatoes dropped sharply at incomes above \$5,000. Proportions of farm families growing vegetables and fruit for use at home were relatively comparable at each level of income. More of the middle-income households (\$5,000 to \$10,000) produced beef and veal than those with the lowest or highest incomes. Egg production by North Central farm families dropped in households with incomes of \$5,000 and over, and milk production in households with incomes of \$3,000 and more.

Home-food production in the South also was most prevalent among households with incomes under \$5,000. Differences among income categories of urban households were slight. There were, however, wide differences in percentages of rural nonfarm households producing food at successively higher income levels. Home production of tomatoes and other vegetables dropped from more than half of the lowest-income group of households producing these foods to about one-fourth of the highest-income households. Production of some animal products, particularly eggs, dropped sharply among Southern rural nonfarm households with incomes of \$5,000 and more.

Considerably fewer Southern farm households at the highest income level (\$10,000 and more) than those with lower incomes grew vegetables and fruit for their own use. Production of animal products by farm households at different levels of income in the South varied from product to product. The numbers of households producing beef and veal increased steadily at successively higher levels of income. More farm households with incomes under \$3,000 than those with higher incomes produced chickens, eggs, milk, and milk products. Production of these foods declined and then remained relatively constant among households with incomes of \$3,000 through \$9,999, then dropped sharply among households at the highest income level.

Home-Food Production: 1954 Versus 1964

According to two recent USDA food consumption surveys, the proportion of U.S. households producing any food for their own use dropped from 40 percent in 1954 to 34 percent in 1964 (table 4). About one-fifth of the urban households produced any food in both survey years, but fewer rural nonfarm and farm households produced food for their own use in 1964 than in 1954. The greatest changes were in the proportions of farm households producing chickens, eggs, and milk and milk products. In 1954, roughly

TABLE 4.--Home-food production in 1954 and 1964: Percentages of households producing food for home use, by region and urbanization

Region and urbanization	Any food		Vegetables, fruit		Beef, veal		Pork		Poultry		Eggs		Milk and milk products	
	1954	Pct.	1954	Pct.	1954	Pct.	1954	Pct.	1954	Pct.	1954	Pct.	1954	Pct.
United States:														
All urbanizations-----	40		37	32	6	4	7	4	14	4	15	7	10	4
Urban-----	21		20	21	1/3	1/3	1/6	1/5	2	1/7	2	1	1/6	1/5
Rural nonfarm-----	60		56	51	45	49	50	42	17	7	17	12	6	5
Farm-----	98		90	87					74	40	79	52	69	43
Northeast:														
All urbanizations-----	27		26	20	2	1	2	1	6	1	6	2	3	1
Urban-----	14		14	13	0	1/2	0	0	1/10	0	1/1	1/5	1/0	1/2
Rural nonfarm-----	55		55	43	1	2	2	2	10	2	9	5	0	56
Farm-----	100		94	83	53	50	38	21	73	28	78	35	68	
North Central:														
All urbanizations-----	45		43	39	9	7	8	5	13	5	14	7	11	5
Urban-----	25		25	26	1/2	1/6	1/3	1/3	1	1/5	1	1/8	0	0
Rural nonfarm-----	64		61	60	58	62	54	44	10	5	9	8	3	5
Farm-----	98		91	83					73	43	79	51	72	47
South:														
All urbanizations-----	48		43	38	8	5	13	7	25	8	27	13	17	6
Urban-----	22		19	23	1	1/2	2	1	6	1	7	3	2	1/7
Rural nonfarm-----	62		55	52	6	5	11	8	28	12	29	20	13	38
Farm-----	97		92	89	30	37	52	46	77	41	82	56	69	
West:														
All urbanizations-----	37		33	27	5	3	2	1	9	1	8	3	5	2
Urban-----	28		27	24	1/3	1	0	0	2	0	2	1	1/4	1/2
Rural nonfarm-----	47		38	38	3	9	2	3	14	4	13	8	4	39
Farm-----	97		76	71	52	54	24	25	64	32	60	42	55	

1/ Less than 0.5 percent.

75 percent of the farm households produced poultry and eggs; in 1964, about 50 percent. Percentages of farm households producing milk and milk products to use at home dropped from about 70 to 40 percent. Fewer farm households produced pork in 1964 than in 1954, but percentages growing vegetables and fruit changed little over the 10-year period and a slightly larger proportion produced beef and veal for home consumption in 1964 than in 1954.

The sharpest drops in percentages of households producing any food between survey years occurred among rural nonfarm households in the Northeast and South and among farm households in the West.

In the Northeast, production of chickens and eggs for home use by farm households declined considerably more between the two survey years than in other regions. This was also true, but to a lesser extent, for vegetables and fruit and pork.

The decreasing importance of home-produced foods also is indicated by a comparison of their money value as a percentage of the money value of all foods used at home in the survey weeks of spring 1955 and 1965. For the United States as a whole, the money value of home-produced foods dropped from 7 percent of the total in 1955 to 4 percent in 1965, largely because of the declines in the proportions of families living on farms and the extent of farm home-food production (table 5). Among regions, the greatest decline was for Southern households, from 12 percent of the total money value in 1955 to 7 percent in 1965.

Among U.S. farm households, home-produced foods represented a considerably greater proportion of the total food money value in both survey years than was found for nonfarm families. Nevertheless, home-food production declined even on farms, from 40 percent of the total food money value in 1955 to 31 percent in 1965. The greatest decrease was for the Northeastern farm households, from 38 to 25 percent; the smallest, for the West, from 33 to 27 percent.

HOUSEHOLD PRESERVATION OF FOOD FOR HOME USE

In 1964, about one-third of all U.S. households canned some food for home use and almost one-fourth froze food at home (table 6). As expected, more of the farm households than nonfarm, and more rural nonfarm households than urban preserved food during the year. In each urbanization, more U.S. households canned vegetables and fruit than froze them. Freezing meat, poultry, fish, and game was much more prevalent than canning, particularly by rural nonfarm and farm households.

TABLE 5.--Money value of home-produced food as a percentage of the money value of all food used at home in a week, spring 1955 and 1965

Region	All urbanizations		Urban		Rural nonfarm		Farm	
	1955	1965	1955	1965	1955	1965	1955	1965
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
United States-----	7	4	1	1	8	7	40	31
Northeast-----	3	1	1	<u>1</u> /	5	3	38	25
North Central-----	8	6	1	1	7	7	41	32
South-----	12	7	2	2	11	9	42	31
West-----	5	3	2	1	4	6	33	27

1/ Less than 0.5 percent.

TABLE 6.--Home-food preservation in 1964: Percentages of households canning and freezing food, by region and urbanization

Region and urbanization	Households canning							Households freezing			
	Any food	Vegetables			Fruit		Meat, poultry, fish, game	Any food	Vegetables	Fruit	Meat, poultry, fish, game
		Any	Pickles, relishes	Other	Any	Jellies, jams, preserves					
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
United States:											
All urbanizations--	34	24	17	19	29	25	19	2	18	16	15
Urban-----	23	14	9	10	19	17	10	1	15	9	8
Rural nonfarm--	54	42	29	35	46	39	32	3	30	26	23
Farm-----	84	73	57	62	78	68	62	15	65	59	67
Northeast:											
All urbanizations--	21	15	10	12	17	14	11	1	9	9	7
Urban-----	13	9	5	7	10	9	6	1/	5	4	3
Rural nonfarm--	46	35	23	28	37	30	26	1	20	23	16
Farm-----	89	76	56	63	81	68	68	16	63	64	70
North Central:											
All urbanizations--	39	30	21	24	33	28	24	3	21	21	20
Urban-----	25	16	11	12	20	16	12	1/	11	11	9
Rural nonfarm--	62	51	35	42	53	44	42	5	32	32	29
Farm-----	89	79	62	68	84	73	71	18	68	69	75
South:											
All urbanizations--	40	29	22	23	34	30	19	2	25	18	17
Urban-----	28	18	13	11	24	21	11	1/	15	10	9
Rural nonfarm--	51	40	29	35	44	39	26	3	33	23	21
Farm-----	80	71	56	60	72	65	54	13	66	52	58
West:											
All urbanizations--	32	16	11	10	29	27	19	2	12	14	15
Urban-----	27	12	8	7	24	22	14	2	9	11	12
Rural nonfarm--	62	40	30	29	58	53	52	2	30	25	28
Farm-----	76	49	42	38	73	66	60	15	48	39	68

1/ Less than 0.5 percent.

Home canning and freezing was much less popular in 1964 among Northeastern nonfarm households than in other parts of the country. The relatively high proportion of North Central rural nonfarm households canning vegetables probably was related to the greater number of households growing vegetables in that region.

The most notable regional variation in home-food preservation among farm households was in the West. Considerably fewer Western farm households canned vegetables and froze vegetables and fruit than the farm households in the other three regions. Home production of vegetables and fruit also was lowest on farms in the West.

U.S. Variations With Income and Urbanization

The percentages of U.S. households canning food for home use in 1964 decreased stepwise at successively higher levels of income (table 7). Income level had little or no relationship to the percentages of households freezing food, however.

The all U.S. averages conceal income differences among households of different urbanizations. For example, slightly more of the urban households with incomes under \$3,000 canned foods than those with higher incomes, but there was little variation among households at income levels higher than \$3,000. Conversely, slightly fewer of the lowest income urban households froze foods.

The percentages of rural nonfarm households canning food in 1964 dropped steadily at successively higher income levels--from almost two-thirds of those with the lowest incomes to one-third of those with the highest. Slightly more of the households with incomes from \$5,000 up to \$7,000 froze foods than did households at other income levels.

The percentages of farm households canning any food were relatively constant for all levels of income, but somewhat fewer of those in the highest income category canned vegetables other than tomatoes. More of the farm households with incomes of \$5,000 and over than those at lower income levels froze foods--between 85 and 90 percent of them. Considerable numbers of all farm households froze foods, however--almost two-thirds of those whose income was less than \$3,000 and about three-fourths of those at the \$3,000 to \$5,000 level.

TABLE 7.--Home-food preservation in the United States in 1964: Percentages of households canning and freezing food, by urbanization and level of income

Urbanization and income level	Households canning						Households freezing					
	Any food	Vegetables			Fruit			Meat, poultry, fish, game	Any food	Vege- tables	Fruit	Meat, poultry, fish, game
		Any	Pickles, relishes	Other	Any	Jellies, jams, preserves	Other					
Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
All urbanizations												
Under \$3,000-----	44	32	22	26	38	32	27	3	20	17	13	13
\$3,000 to \$4,999-----	36	28	20	22	31	26	22	2	23	19	16	16
\$5,000 to \$6,999-----	34	24	17	19	29	26	17	2	27	20	19	17
\$7,000 to \$9,999-----	29	19	13	14	25	22	14	1	26	18	17	14
\$10,000 and over-----	25	16	12	11	21	19	11	1	24	16	17	16
Urban												
Under \$3,000-----	29	18	12	13	24	21	15	1	9	6	6	4
\$3,000 to \$4,999-----	22	14	9	10	18	16	11	1/	12	9	7	7
\$5,000 to \$6,999-----	24	14	10	10	19	17	10	1	16	12	10	9
\$7,000 to \$9,999-----	22	12	8	8	18	17	9	1/	19	12	12	9
\$10,000 and over-----	21	12	10	6	17	15	7	1/	18	12	12	12
Rural nonfarm												
Under \$3,000-----	62	50	33	43	55	46	42	4	31	26	17	19
\$3,000 to \$4,999-----	55	45	32	38	48	40	35	3	34	29	23	22
\$5,000 to \$6,999-----	54	44	30	35	45	41	29	4	48	36	36	29
\$7,000 to \$9,999-----	42	36	25	28	39	34	27	1	42	32	28	25
\$10,000 and over-----	33	24	15	22	29	25	19	3	38	25	27	16
Farm												
Under \$3,000-----	83	71	56	61	75	62	64	18	64	57	47	56
\$3,000 to \$4,999-----	86	77	62	66	78	69	65	15	78	67	59	68
\$5,000 to \$6,999-----	87	74	59	65	82	75	61	13	85	71	68	75
\$7,000 to \$9,999-----	86	73	54	62	80	72	60	16	87	74	68	74
\$10,000 and over-----	80	66	48	51	76	69	57	10	89	69	68	81

1/ Less than 0.5 percent.

Regional Differences by Urbanization and Income

Some differences in the relationship between level of income and the extent of home-food preservation were noted between the North Central Region and the South, the only two regions for which comparisons can be made. In general, the all-urbanization averages in both regions indicate that fewer high-income households canned foods than the low- or middle-income households (table 8). In the North Central Region, there was little relationship between level of income and proportions of households freezing food. In the South, however, more middle- and high-income households froze foods than those at the low-income levels.

Percentages of North Central urban households canning any food varied little with income up to the highest income level, where the proportion dropped slightly. There was no consistent relationship between level of income and proportions of Southern urban households canning foods. In both regions, more of the urban households with incomes of \$5,000 and over froze foods than those with lower incomes.

The frequency of home canning among rural nonfarm households in the North Central Region varied less with income than in the South. In the North Central Region, roughly two-thirds of the households with incomes under \$7,000 and about half of those with incomes of \$7,000 and over canned some food in a year. The drop between the extremes of the income range in the South were from slightly less than two-thirds of the lowest-income households reporting having canned any food to slightly more than one-fourth of the highest-income households. In both regions, more rural nonfarm households with incomes of \$5,000 up to \$7,000 froze food than those at the extremes of the income range.

In the North Central Region, almost all farm households in each income category canned some food during 1964. In the South, fewer of the high-income farm families than those at the other income levels canned food. While home freezing was lowest among farm households with incomes below \$3,000, even at that level many did some freezing--almost three-fourths of them in the North Central Region and more than half in the South.

Home Canning: 1954 Versus 1964

The proportion of all U.S. households canning any food dropped from 44 percent in 1954 to 34 percent in 1964 (table 9). The greatest decline was in the percentage of rural nonfarm households canning food for their own use; the smallest, among farm households. Although the percentage of urban households canning food dropped from 1954 to 1964, almost one-fourth of them still had canned some food in 1964. The downward shift was greater for all households than for individual urbanizations because farm households, which always raise the overall average, were a smaller proportion and urban households a larger proportion of the U.S. total in 1964 than in 1954.

TABLE 8.--Home-food preservation in the North Central Region and the South in 1964: Percentages of households canning and freezing food, by urbanization and level of income

Region, urbanization, and income level	Households canning								Households freezing			
	Any food	Vegetables			Fruit			Meat, poultry, fish, game	Any food	Vege- tables	Fruit	Meat, poultry, fish, game
		Any	Pickles, relishes	Other	Any	Jellies, jams, preserves	Other					
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
North Central												
All urbanizations:												
Under \$3,000-----	46	36	24	27	41	32	32	5	28	20	20	21
\$3,000 to \$4,999-	50	40	28	33	44	35	34	4	33	23	25	26
\$5,000 to \$6,999-	39	31	21	25	32	28	23	4	32	23	24	19
\$7,000 to \$9,999-	35	26	18	20	28	24	18	2	28	21	18	18
\$10,000 and over-	29	20	15	14	25	22	16	2	26	16	18	18
Urban:												
Under \$3,000-----	28	20	12	13	24	19	15	0	12	9	9	6
\$3,000 to \$4,999-	29	18	11	14	24	17	15	1	14	7	10	10
\$5,000 to \$6,999-	25	17	10	13	18	15	12	1	18	12	12	8
\$7,000 to \$9,999-	26	17	12	13	20	18	11	1	19	13	12	10
\$10,000 and over-	20	13	10	7	16	14	9	0	20	11	13	12
Rural nonfarm:												
Under \$3,000-----	65	53	35	40	58	45	49	8	40	25	24	31
\$3,000 to \$4,999-	72	62	43	51	65	52	54	5	46	32	34	34
\$5,000 to \$6,999-	66	56	39	48	55	48	41	7	57	42	45	31
\$7,000 to \$9,999-	50	43	27	34	38	32	29	0	42	30	24	28
\$10,000 and over-	56	39	30	39	52	52	39	9	39	26	22	22
Farm:												
Under \$3,000-----	87	76	60	65	83	66	75	17	73	63	60	68
\$3,000 to \$4,999-	92	82	66	71	83	71	71	18	85	66	68	77
\$5,000 to \$6,999-	89	78	62	71	85	77	69	19	87	71	74	79
\$7,000 to \$9,999-	90	81	62	68	83	77	68	20	92	79	76	81
\$10,000 and over-	92	82	55	65	88	76	71	12	90	74	71	84
South												
All urbanizations:												
Under \$3,000-----	48	36	26	31	42	35	28	4	22	20	12	14
\$3,000 to \$4,999-	40	32	24	25	33	29	20	3	29	27	17	18
\$5,000 to \$6,999-	42	29	22	20	37	34	16	1	35	31	24	24
\$7,000 to \$9,999-	29	18	14	12	26	23	10	1	33	28	22	14
\$10,000 and over-	31	22	16	13	27	25	12	1/	32	24	23	19
Urban:												
Under \$3,000-----	32	21	15	16	28	23	16	1	9	8	4	3
\$3,000 to \$4,999-	27	20	15	13	22	20	11	0	17	15	8	8
\$5,000 to \$6,999-	34	20	15	13	30	27	13	1/	23	20	12	13
\$7,000 to \$9,999-	22	12	9	6	19	17	5	0	28	21	16	10
\$10,000 and over-	30	19	14	9	25	23	8	0	26	20	18	10
Rural nonfarm:												
Under \$3,000-----	61	49	33	45	54	45	38	4	30	28	16	18
\$3,000 to \$4,999-	48	38	28	35	41	35	24	4	35	35	21	21
\$5,000 to \$6,999-	46	36	26	26	40	39	16	1	47	41	36	33
\$7,000 to \$9,999-	43	31	26	23	38	35	18	4	42	39	31	19
\$10,000 and over-	28	22	15	18	22	20	15	0	35	25	28	8
Farm:												
Under \$3,000-----	79	70	53	60	70	60	56	17	57	53	39	47
\$3,000 to \$4,999-	82	77	61	64	74	66	59	14	73	70	56	62
\$5,000 to \$6,999-	86	72	58	60	78	72	49	6	84	79	67	72
\$7,000 to \$9,999-	80	68	46	62	75	70	46	9	82	79	64	62
\$10,000 and over-	69	60	49	51	64	64	40	2	91	80	69	80

1/ Less than 0.5 percent.

TABLE 9.--Home canning in 1954 and 1964: Percentages of households canning food for home use, by region and urbanization

Region and urbanization	Any food		Vegetables						Fruit						Meat, poultry, fish, game	
			Any		Pickles, relishes		Other		Any		Jellies, jams, preserves		Other			
	1954	1964													1954	1964
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
<u>United States</u>																
All urbanizations----	44	34	32	24	18	17	30	19	39	29	31	25	30	19	4	2
Urban-----	29	23	17	14	8	9	15	10	25	19	19	17	17	10	1	1
Rural nonfarm-----	63	54	49	42	26	29	47	35	55	46	44	39	42	32	5	3
Farm-----	87	84	77	73	54	57	74	62	81	78	67	68	70	62	15	15
<u>Northeast</u>																
All urbanizations----	31	21	23	15	12	10	22	12	26	17	19	14	20	11	2	1
Urban-----	18	13	11	9	5	5	10	7	16	10	12	9	11	6	1/	1/
Rural nonfarm-----	60	46	52	35	24	23	49	28	48	37	34	30	41	26	6	1
Farm-----	92	89	87	76	60	56	85	63	86	81	66	68	76	68	21	16
<u>North Central</u>																
All urbanizations----	56	39	43	30	25	21	40	24	48	33	38	28	36	24	4	3
Urban-----	41	25	28	16	13	11	25	12	33	20	24	16	22	12	1	1/
Rural nonfarm-----	72	62	58	51	34	35	54	42	62	53	53	44	47	42	4	5
Farm-----	91	89	84	79	64	62	81	68	87	84	74	73	79	71	16	18
<u>South</u>																
All urbanizations----	45	40	34	29	19	22	32	23	41	34	32	30	30	19	4	2
Urban-----	22	28	12	18	6	13	11	11	19	24	15	21	12	11	1/	1/
Rural nonfarm-----	61	51	46	40	24	29	45	35	56	44	45	39	41	26	5	3
Farm-----	84	80	73	71	49	56	70	60	76	72	62	65	61	54	14	13
<u>West</u>																
All urbanizations----	46	32	20	16	10	11	17	10	44	29	34	27	35	19	3	2
Urban-----	43	27	15	12	7	8	14	7	41	24	30	22	31	14	2	2
Rural nonfarm-----	48	62	26	40	14	30	20	29	46	58	36	53	37	52	7	2
Farm-----	74	76	54	49	27	42	49	38	73	73	65	66	64	60	5	15

1/ Less than 0.5 percent.

The important decrease in proportions of U.S. households canning was in vegetables in forms other than pickles or relishes and in fruit other than those made into jellies, jams, or preserves. A slightly greater proportion of households processed pickles or relishes in 1964 than in 1954 in all urbanization categories. The percentages making jellies, jams, or preserves dropped only slightly among urban and rural nonfarm households and not at all in farm households. Few households in any urbanization canned meat, poultry, fish, or game in either year.

Fewer households in the Northeast than in the other regions canned food for their own use in both years. Larger proportions of North Central households were canning food in 1954 than in any other region, but by 1964 the percentage had dropped to a level comparable to that in the South and West. Between the two survey years, the South decreased substantially less than the other regions in proportions of households doing some canning.

Although an overall decrease occurred in the proportions of households in the United States and in the four regions doing some canning, the shift was not uniform. Increases in the proportions canning food at home occurred in the West among rural nonfarm and farm households, and in the South among urban households. For farm households as a whole and in the three regions other than the West, the decrease in proportions canning was small, never exceeding 4 percentage points.

Homefreezing: 1954 Versus 1964

Whereas the proportions of households canning food dropped over the 10-year period, the percentages freezing food rose (table 10). The percentage of all U.S. households freezing any food increased from 19 percent in 1954 to 24 percent in 1964. The greatest increases were among rural nonfarm and farm households. In 1964 more than one-third of the rural nonfarm households and three-fourths of the farm households froze some food. Proportions of urban households freezing also increased, from 9 to 15 percent.

The major portion of the increase can be explained by the larger numbers of households in the United States as a whole and in each urbanization freezing vegetables and fruit in 1964 than in 1954. Home freezing of meat, poultry, fish, and game was only slightly more prevalent in 1964 than 10 years earlier. Freezing of these foods in 1954 was done by larger proportions of households in each urbanization than freezing of vegetables and fruit.

TABLE 10.--Homefreezing in 1954 and 1964: Percentages of households freezing food for home use, by region and urbanization

Region and urbanization	Any food		Vegetables		Fruit		Meat, poultry, fish, game	
	1954	1964	1954	1964	1954	1964	1954	1964
<u>United States</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Pct.</u>
All urbanizations-----	19	24	11	18	9	16	16	15
Urban-----	9	15	4	10	4	9	7	8
Rural nonfarm-----	23	38	15	30	12	26	19	23
Farm-----	62	77	37	65	31	59	60	67
<u>Northeast</u>								
All urbanizations-----	11	13	8	9	6	9	9	7
Urban-----	5	7	3	5	2	4	4	3
Rural nonfarm-----	21	30	16	20	12	23	16	16
Farm-----	76	78	51	63	46	64	72	70
<u>North Central</u>								
All urbanizations-----	26	30	15	21	14	21	23	20
Urban-----	13	17	6	11	5	11	8	9
Rural nonfarm-----	29	46	18	32	16	32	26	29
Farm-----	81	84	49	68	44	69	78	75
<u>South</u>								
All urbanizations-----	17	28	10	25	7	18	14	17
Urban-----	8	19	4	15	3	10	6	9
Rural nonfarm-----	17	36	12	33	8	23	13	21
Farm-----	42	70	26	66	16	52	40	58
<u>West</u>								
All urbanizations-----	22	22	9	12	10	14	19	15
Urban-----	14	17	5	9	6	11	11	12
Rural nonfarm-----	34	44	14	30	13	25	30	28
Farm-----	77	79	31	48	34	39	75	68

In both 1964 and 1954, more households in the North Central Region than in any other area froze some food for their own use. In both years, the proportions of households freezing food was smallest in the Northeast. The greatest increase between the two survey years occurred in percentages of Southern households doing some homefreezing. The proportions of urban and rural nonfarm households freezing food in the South more than doubled over the 10-year period. In 1954, about 40 percent of the households in the South froze foods, whereas roughly 80 percent of the farm households in the other three regions had frozen foods for their own use. By 1964 more of the households in the South reported freezing food, although still roughly 10 percent less than in other regions.

Household Facilities for Freezing Food: Spring 1955 and 1965

The increase in proportions of households freezing food from 1954 to 1964 was associated with an increase in homefreezer ownership during the 10 years. The percentages of U.S. households with a separate homefreezer increased greatly in each urbanization--more than doubling in the cities, almost tripling in rural nonfarm areas, and almost doubling on farms (table 11).

In spring 1955, fewer U.S. households in each urbanization had homefreezers than had reported doing some freezing the previous year. Some households in each urbanization, and an appreciable number on farms, had rented locker space to freeze foods for their own use. No information on the use of rented lockers is available from the 1965 survey. Because the number of locker and freezer-provisioning firms with frozen food lockers for rent decreased in the 1950's and 1960's, ^{1/} it seems reasonable to assume that fewer survey households were renting frozen food lockers in 1965 than in 1955.

In spring 1965, greater proportions of all U.S. households and those in cities and rural nonfarm areas had homefreezers than had reported freezing food in the year 1964. This may be due to the time lapse from the first of the year to the spring data collection period during which households may have acquired a freezer. Also, some urban and rural nonfarm households may use their freezers only for storing commercially frozen foods. Slightly fewer farm households had freezers in spring 1965 than those reporting freezing foods in 1964. This finding seems to indicate that some farm households were still renting frozen food locker space in which to freeze foods for their own use in 1964.

^{1/} Wilkins, P. C., and Miner, B. D. Frozen Food Locker and Freezer Provisioning Industry, 1960. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 545, 29 pp. 1962. Miner, B. D., Seymour, W. R., and Parsons, R. P. Frozen Food Locker and Freezer Provisioning Industry, 1965. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 779, 16 pp. 1967.

TABLE 11.--Household facilities for freezing food: Spring 1955 and 1965

Region and urbanization	Percentage of households with--			
	Homefreezer		Rented locker, 1955	Regular use of another's freezer, 1955
	1955	1965		
<u>United States</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
All urbanizations-----	13	28	6	3
Urban-----	8	21	2	2
Rural nonfarm-----	15	41	8	5
Farm-----	40	72	23	6
<u>Northeast</u>				
All urbanizations-----	9	17	2	2
Urban-----	5	11	1	2
Rural nonfarm-----	17	36	6	4
Farm-----	60	74	15	6
<u>North Central</u>				
All urbanizations-----	19	32	10	4
Urban-----	12	21	3	2
Rural nonfarm-----	18	46	11	6
Farm-----	49	78	34	6
<u>South</u>				
All urbanizations-----	11	33	5	4
Urban-----	6	25	3	2
Rural nonfarm-----	11	39	3	5
Farm-----	27	66	13	6
<u>West</u>				
All urbanizations-----	15	31	11	3
Urban-----	13	28	6	3
Rural nonfarm-----	16	45	20	3
Farm-----	46	81	37	6

Among the several regions and urbanizations, the greatest increase in homefreezer ownership from spring 1955 to spring 1965 was in farm households in the West and South.

Data collected in the winter part of the 1965-66 survey indicate that homefreezer ownership increased over spring levels in all urbanizations. Following are the percentages of U.S. households with homefreezers in each of the seasons:

	<u>Spring 1965</u> <u>(April, May, June)</u>	<u>Winter 1966</u> <u>(January, February, March)</u>
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
All households-----	28	31
Urban-----	21	24
Rural nonfarm-----	41	45
Farm-----	72	76

An increase in proportions of households freezing food at home probably accompanied this rise in ownership.

TABLE 13.--Numbers of households at selected levels of family income in 1964

Region and urbanization	All households		Under \$3,000		\$3,000 to \$4,999		\$5,000 to \$6,999		\$7,000 to \$9,999		\$10,000 and over	
	Actual	Weighted	Actual	Weighted	Actual	Weighted	Actual	Weighted	Actual	Weighted	Actual	Weighted
<u>United States</u>												
All urbanizations ^{1/}	7,532	6,174	1,717	1,294	1,515	1,157	1,756	1,483	1,360	1,219	790	685
Urban-----	4,356	4,356	300	800	767	767	1,061	1,061	931	931	552	552
Rural nonfarm-----	1,439	1,439	379	379	291	291	345	345	248	248	104	104
Farm-----	1,737	379.35	538	115.45	457	99.10	350	77.45	181	40.40	134	29.35
<u>Northeast</u>												
All urbanizations-----	1,621	1,523	227	208	319	290	426	402	359	346	212	200
Urban-----	1,174	1,174	157	157	224	224	311	311	264	264	160	160
Rural nonfarm-----	324	324	46	46	59	59	85	85	79	79	37	37
Farm-----	123	24.6	24	4.8	36	7.2	30	6.0	16	3.2	15	3.0
<u>North Central</u>												
All urbanizations-----	2,233	1,754	419	301	390	275	602	490	439	376	244	206
Urban-----	1,187	1,187	179	179	154	154	340	340	273	273	170	170
Rural nonfarm-----	407	407	83	83	82	82	113	113	82	82	23	23
Farm-----	639	159.75	157	39.25	154	38.50	149	37.25	84	21.00	51	12.75
<u>South</u>												
All urbanizations-----	2,651	1,985	879	614	625	436	493	380	343	303	197	161
Urban-----	1,199	1,199	321	321	259	259	231	231	218	218	112	112
Rural nonfarm-----	619	619	227	227	130	130	121	121	74	74	40	40
Farm-----	833	166.6	331	66.2	236	47.2	141	28.2	56	11.2	45	9.0
<u>West</u>												
All urbanizations-----	1,027	913	192	171	181	156	235	211	214	194	137	119
Urban-----	796	796	143	143	130	130	179	179	176	176	110	110
Rural nonfarm-----	89	89	23	23	20	20	26	26	13	13	4	4
Farm-----	142	28.4	26	5.2	31	6.2	30	6.0	25	5.0	23	4.6

^{1/} Weights were used to compensate for expanded sample of farm households. (See Sample Analysis, Report No. 1, Household Food Consumption Survey 1965-66.) Farm households have a weight of 1/5 in the Northeast, West, and South; 1/4 in the North Central Region.

